

**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 8, 2010
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Beale convened the meeting at 6 p.m. and welcomed everyone present. All Board Members, the County Manager, Deputy Clerk, Finance Director, members of the news media and interested citizens were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Beale announced he would be going to Raleigh on Wednesday to give the county's report from the Child Care Committee to the Human Services Committee.

INVOCATION: Commissioner McClellan gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The pledge to the flag was recited.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No one wished to speak during public session.

ADDITIONS/ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously voted to approve the agenda with the following adjustment: add an overview by the County Manager of the February 6th work session as item #8B.

UPDATE ON EMERGENCY SERVICES: Emergency Management Director Warren Cabe reported during the recent snow storm that the call center calls increased over 300% and over 1500 customers were without electricity. He explained that they had 295 man hours over regular hours that would be taken in comp time, etc. and out of pocket expense to the county would be around \$2,986. He added there were a lot of volunteer hours from volunteers, fire departments, the Red Cross, etc. and that Macon County was lucky compared to what could have been. DSS Director Jane Kimsey stated the emergency shelter at Cartoogechaye was opened at 9 p.m. on January 29th and served 21 adults and 15 children with 20 DSS staff members and Red Cross volunteers staffing the center. She explained DSS had no expense except 229 man hours which will be comp time. She also expressed appreciation to EMS, Red Cross, the Board of Education, first responders and others who assisted with emergency transport. The Board commended Ms. Kimsey, Mr. Cabe, their staffs and all those who assisted in emergency efforts.

WORK SESSION UPDATE: County Manager Horton gave a brief review of the February 6th work session stating the board received updates on the county's financial status, school projects, animal control, the county-wide comprehensive plan, 2010 census and health insurance.

EMS GARAGE: The County Manager explained bids were received for an EMS Garage at the old Senior Services Building on Hyatt Road, all bids were over budget and as a result were rejected by the Board. He added the County has looked at alternatives and requested proposals for sub-contracting construction of the building with county staff

doing portions of the labor at a cost of \$86,169 per **attachment #1**. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously voted to accepted the proposal as presented.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Commodity Distribution Plan – Emergency Management Director Warren Cabe requested approval of the Macon County Distribution Plan as recommended by North Carolina Emergency Management which details mass distribution of resources to the public during a disaster. Commissioner Koppers made a motion to approve the plan as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Simpson and all favored with the understanding that plan exercises be incorporated into the plan. **Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan** – Mr. Cabe also requested updates to the Macon County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as required by North Carolina Emergency Management noting the plan is reviewed and updated every five years. Upon motion by Commission McClellan, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board unanimously approved the plan as updated. Mr. Cabe advised the Board that he was taking both plans to the Towns of Franklin and Highlands for their approval. (Note: Copies of both plans are on file in the Emergency Management Office and the County Manager’s Office.)

CONSENT AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Koppers, the Board unanimously approved the following items on the consent agenda: **Minutes** – Approved the minutes of the January 25th meeting. **Finance – Audit Contract** – Approved the audit contract for FY 09/10 with Martin Starnes & Associates per **attachment #2**. **Reimbursement Resolutions** – Approved reimbursement resolutions on the Nantahala School renovations (QZAB funds) per **attachment #3** and on the North Macon School Project (QSCB funds) per **attachment #4**. **MMS Sewer Project Change Order** – Approved the attached change order on the Macon Middle School Sewer Improvement Project as relates to budget revision #97 with disbursement being made contingent upon receipt of a certificate of completion accompanied by a warranty. **Budget Revisions** – Approved the following budget amendments: revision #91, budgeting \$500 in DSS Special adoption incentive; revision #92, appropriating \$29,255 donations made to the Sheriff’s Department; revision #93, budgeting \$66,600 for two Governor’s Highway Safety Grants in the Sheriff’s Department; revision #94, appropriating general fund transferring \$100,000 to Nantahala School Capital Project; revision #95, transferring \$44,300 to fund housing administrative costs for FY 09/10; revision #96, appropriating \$471 in federal forfeiture funds and \$574 controlled substance tax funds in the Sheriff’s Department; and revision #97, appropriating \$7,312 McGill contribution to the Cullasaja River Crossing Project. (Note: revisions with corresponding numbers attached.)

APPOINTMENTS: Library Board – Upon motion by Commissioner McClellan, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation to reappoint Nancy Scott and Avary Doubleday to the Library Board, and to appoint Jim Breedlove to fill the position vacated by Randolph Bulgin. All terms will expire February 28, 2013. Also included in the motion was to appoint Lee Byers to fill the unexpired term of Cindy Trevathan who resigned. Term will expire February 29,

2012. **Juvenile Crime Prevention Council** – Commissioner Simpson made a motion to approve the recommended membership list for the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council per **attachment #5** and to appoint Annie Breedlove and Susan Waldrof to fill the vacancies created by the resignation of Jolita Jackson and when Marci Holland was designated as the school’s designee. Both Terms will expire June 30, 2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kupperts and all favored.

CLOSED SESSION: Upon motion by Commissioner Kupperts, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board unanimously voted to go into closed session to discuss personnel. The Deputy Clerk and Finance Officer were excused from the session.

COUNTY ATTORNEY POSITION: Back in regular session Chairman Beale announced due to economic conditions the Board had been in discussions with County Attorney Lesley Moxley, that she will be resigning as County Attorney and an agreement to negate her original contract with the county had been reached. He added Ms. Moxley would be receiving some severance pay and benefits. Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Kupperts, the Board unanimously voted to accept the agreement signed by Ms. Moxley and the terms thereof per **attachment # 6**. Chairman Beale expressed appreciation to Ms. Moxley for her service stating she always displayed her vast knowledge of North Carolina law that governs counties and the operations of county government. He continued that Macon County is grateful for her very important work during the time of her employment in which the County saw tremendous growth.

INTERIM ATTORNEY: Chairman Beale stated by law the County is required to have a county attorney. County Manager Horton reported he had spoken with attorney Chester Jones who currently does legal work for Clay and Graham Counties and he is willing to accept the position of county attorney on an interim basis. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Kupperts, the Board unanimously voted to eliminate the full-time county attorney position immediately and to enter into a contract with Chester Jones as interim county attorney on an hourly basis to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Kupperts.

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Ronnie Beale
Board Chairman